

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services
Director or Parks and Recreation

At its meeting held June 29, 2004, the Board took the following action:

142-B

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"On June 24, 2004, the County Health Department announced the first human case of West Nile Virus fever in the County. This was not unexpected, because in recent weeks there have been numerous reports of dead birds and mosquitoes testing positive for West Nile Virus in Los Angeles County. We must continue to be particularly vigilant to prevent human cases of the virus this summer.

"The Department has implemented its plans for surveillance and public information about West Nile Virus and has been working with the vector and mosquito control districts across the County to maximize mosquito control.

"People are most at risk of infection when they are outside in areas where mosquitoes are present, and this includes people who may be using our County parks and recreations facilities."

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion that the Board direct the Directors of Health Services and Public Health to:

 Work with the Director of Parks and Recreation to assure that a West Nile virus information campaign, including signs or pamphlets, is implemented quickly in all County outdoor park and recreation sites; and

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2. Offer assistance to city parks and recreation departments and other city departments in the County.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"In addition to written information shared with County and City parks personnel regarding the West Nile Virus, a program of in-service training for these staff would further strengthen the County's response to this important public health threat."

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion that Supervisor Antonovich's motion be amended to instruct the Director of Public Health of the Department of Health Services, in conjunction with the Director of Parks and Recreation and appropriate County Vector Control Districts, to organize a training program on the subject of the West Nile Virus in the near future at appropriate location(s) for the purpose of orienting key personnel of public parks and other outdoor recreation facilities to the disease; and provide direction on measures that can be taken to reduce the threat of the disease to County residents using these facilities.

Supervisor Knabe made a suggestion to further amend Supervisor Antonovich's motion to also extend an invitation to the cities in Los Angeles County that operate their own parks and recreation departments to attend the West Nile Virus in-service training.

Supervisor Antonovich accepted Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Knabe's amendments.

Supervisor Antonovich's motion, as amended, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, was unanimously carried.

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Copies distributed:

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Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Director of Public Health
Agricultural Commissioner/Director of
Weights and Measures